

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5-16, 18, 20-22, 24, 26-33, 35, 37 and 38 are pending in the present application. By this Response, claims 1, 3, 5, 8, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 27, 31, 33, 35, 37 and 38 are amended and claims 2, 4, 17, 19, 23, 25, 34 and 36 are canceled. Claims 1, 16, 22 and 33 are amended to incorporate allowable subject matter from canceled claim 2, 4, 17, 19, 23, 25, 34 and 36, respectively. Claims 3, 5, 8, 18, 20, 24, 26, 27, 31, 35, 37 and 38 are amended to correct their dependency in view of the cancellation of claim 2, 4, 17, 19, 23, 25, 34 and 36. Reconsideration of the claims in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank Examiner McArdle for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 4, 19, 25 and 36. By this Response, Applicants have amended the independent claims to include allowable subject matter from dependent claims 4, 19, 25 and 36 respectively. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the subject application is now in condition for allowance.

II. Submission of Figures 3A and 3B

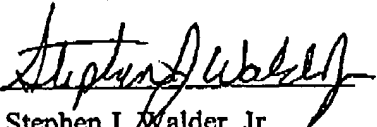
Applicants are submitting Figures 3A and 3B. Applicants respectfully submit that the attached copy of Figures 3A and 3B do not constitute new matter and should be included in the application because they only illustrate in block format what is fully described in the specification on pages 9-12. A formal copy of Figures 3A and 3B will be submitted upon indication by the Examiner that Figures 3A and 3B has been entered into the application.

III. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is patentable over Bjerrum and Dolan and is now in condition for allowance. Examiner McArdle is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in his opinion such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

DATE: November 4, 2003


Stephen J. Walder, Jr.
Reg. No. 41,534
Carstens, Yee & Cahoon, LLP
P.O. Box 802334
Dallas, TX 75380
(972) 367-2001
Attorney for Applicants

SJW/r